

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 3, 10, and 12 are amended. No new matter is added. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully request.

The Examiner is thanked for the many courtesies extended to Applicant's attorney in the course of a personal interview conducted February 10, 2004. The substance of that interview is included herein per MPEP §713.04.

I. Request for Acknowledgement of Receipt of the Certified Copy of the Priority Document

In addition, in the Office Action Summary mailed January 12, 2004, the Office Action Summary acknowledges Applicant's claim for priority but asserts that only some of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received. Applicant respectfully submits that a certified copy of the one priority document Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-246861 was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 28, 2001, as evidenced by the attached PTO Receipt for Filing of Papers bearing the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office date stamp of September 28, 2001. Also attached are copies of the cover sheet and first page of the priority document. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests acknowledgement of receipt of the certified copies of all of the priority documents.

II. Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable for U.S. Patent No. 6,412,070 to Van Dyke et al. ("Van Dyke") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,275,825 to Kobayashi et al. ("Kobayashi").

Applicant respectfully submits that Van Dyke and Kobayashi, taken separately or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest "setting an identifier for identifying the object in association with the retrieval condition; and performing access control for an object

matching the retrieval condition and the identifier on the basis of the access right, as recited in claim 1 from which claims 2-9 directly or indirectly depend.

Applicant respectfully submits that Van Dyke and Kobayashi, taken separately or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest "access control means for managing ...an identifier set is association with the retrieval condition,...wherein the access control means performs access control for an object matching the retrieval condition and the identifier on the basis of a retrieval result by the retrieval means," as recited in claim 10 from which claims 11-18 directly or indirectly depend.

As reflected in the Interview Summary, Examiner Anh Ly agreed that claims 3 and 12 contained features, that are not disclosed in Van Dyke and Kobayashi. Accordingly, method claim 1 has been amended to include allowable features from claim 3. Similarly, apparatus claim 10 has been amended to include allowable features from claim 12.


For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 10 are distinguishable over the applied art. The remainder of the claims that depend from independent claims 1 and 10 are likewise distinguishable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features they recite.

I. Conclusion

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Paul F. Daebeler
Registration No. 35,852

JAO:PFD/gew

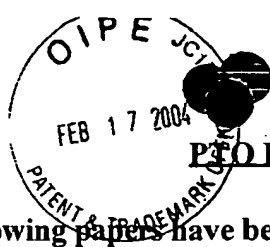
Date: February 17, 2004

Attachments:

Date-Stamped Postcard
Cover, 1st Page of Priority Document

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--



PTO RECEIPT FOR FILING OF PAPERS

The following papers have been filed:

ltrtoOD, 11pp frml drwns (1-13), CFP cert cpy JP 2000-246861 (8/16/00), IDS pto 1449
appendix 4 refs

Name of Applicant: Hideki MATSUNAGA

Serial No.: 09/923,440

Atty. File No.: 110331

Title (New Cases):

Sender's Initials: JAO/zmc

78/29
RECEIVED

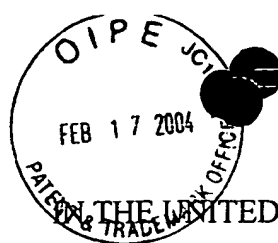
FEB 18 2004

Technology Center 2100

PATENT OFFICE DATE STAMP



70



PATENT APPLICATION

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hideki MATSUNAGA

Application No.: 09/923,440

Filed: August 8, 2001

Docket No.: 110331

For: OBJECT MANAGEMENT METHOD AND SYSTEM

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

RECEIVED

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

FEB 18 2004
Technology Center 2100

Sir:

The benefit of the filing date of the following prior foreign application filed in the following foreign country is hereby requested for the above-identified patent application and the priority provided in 35 U.S.C. §119 is hereby claimed:

Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-246861 filed on August 16, 2000.

In support of this claim, a certified copy of said original foreign application:

 X is filed herewith.

 was filed on in Parent Application No. filed .

 will be filed at a later date.

It is requested that the file of this application be marked to indicate that the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §119 have been fulfilled and that the Patent and Trademark Office kindly acknowledge receipt of this document.

Respectfully submitted,

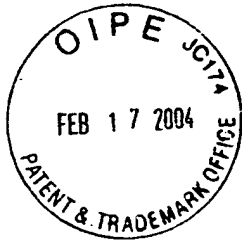
James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/zmc
Date: September 28, 2001

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION
Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our



日本国特許庁
JAPAN PATENT OFFICE

別紙添付の書類に記載されている事項は下記の出願書類に記載されている事項と同一であることを証明する。

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy of the following application as filed with this Office

出願年月日
Date of Application:

2000年 8月16日

出願番号
Application Number:

特願2000-246861

出願人
Applicant(s):

富士ゼロックス株式会社

RECEIVED

FEB 18 2004

Technology Center 2100

2001年 8月 3日

特許庁長官
Commissioner,
Japan Patent Office

及川耕造

